

STRUGGLE FOR A BORDER

Canada's Relations with the United States

A series of nine hour-length films presenting for the first time on the screen the historical interplay that produced the two great transcontinental nations of North America

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Produced by the National Film Board of Canada

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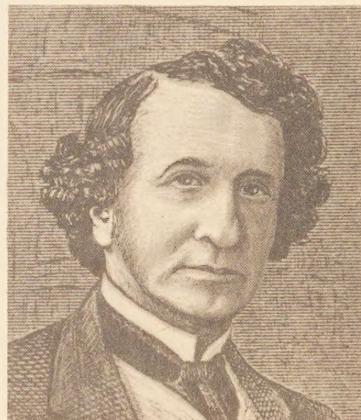
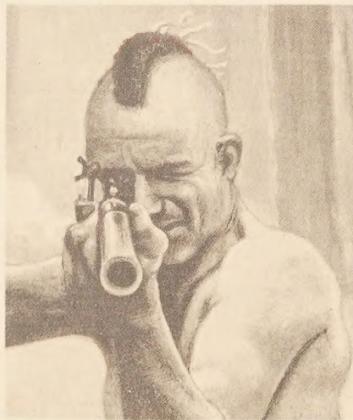
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Struggle for a Border is a monumental work – many years in the making and the largest single work ever undertaken by the National Film Board of Canada. It reconstructs and illuminates the inter-related story of Canada and the United States.

Why are there just two nations occupying that enormous expanse of the North American continent north of the Rio Grande? Why not just one American nation, or why not several nations?

Exhaustively researched in hundreds of archives in North America and Europe, these films explore the answers, presenting a wealth of pictorial material which chronicles, dramatizes and clarifies the complex course of events from the first clash of French and British colonial aspirations to the eventual definition of the U.S.-Canada border as it is today.



"In Struggle for a Border, contemporary cartoons, sketches, photographs and maps come alive at a pace that is fast enough to hold interest and slow enough to allow impressions to form."

R. C. Kirbyson, B.A., B.Ed., M.A.
Head, History Department, West Kildoran Collegiate
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Co-author of "Challenge and Survival: The History
of Canada" (Prentice-Hall)

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Professor D. H. Avery, B.A., B.Ed., M.A.
Department of History, University of Western Ontario

1. New England and New France (1490-1763)

57 minutes 55 seconds black-and-white

Purchase: \$200.00

2. Canada and the American Revolution (1763-1783)

57 minutes 15 seconds black-and-white

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3. The War of 1812 (1783-1818)

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5. The New Equation:

Annexation and Reciprocity (1840-1860)

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6. The Friendly Fifties and the Sinister Sixties (1850-1863)

58 minutes 25 seconds black-and-white

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7. The Triumphant Union and the Canadian Confederation (1863-1867)

58 minutes 28 seconds black-and-white

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8. The Border Confirmed:

The Treaty of Washington (1867-1871)

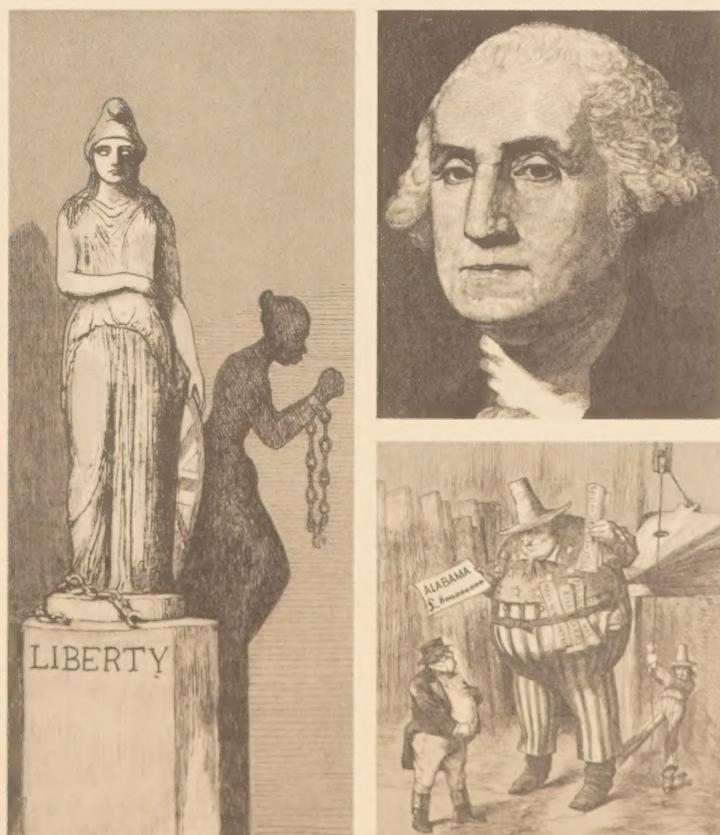
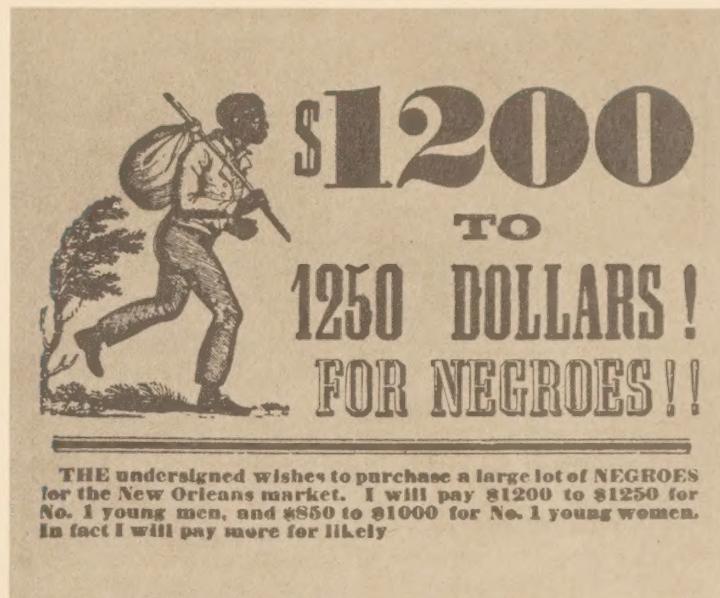
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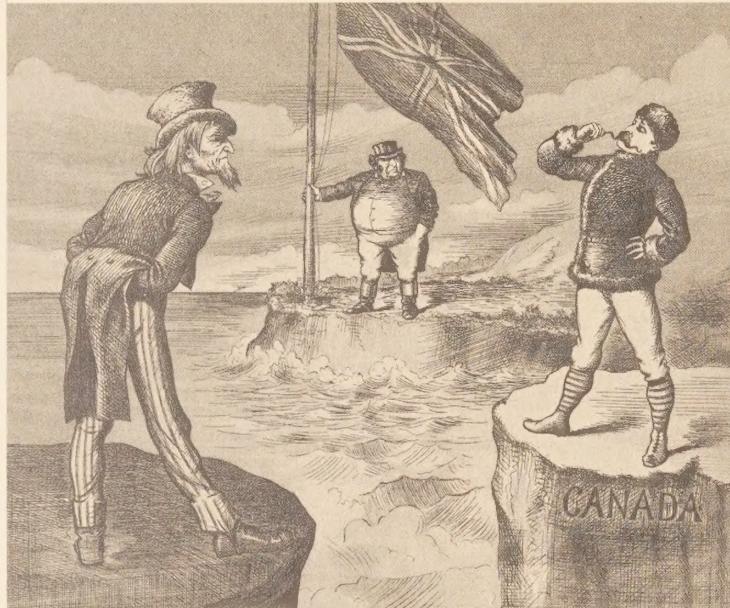
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9. A Second Transcontinental Nation (1872)

58 minutes 36 seconds black-and-white

Purchase: \$200.00



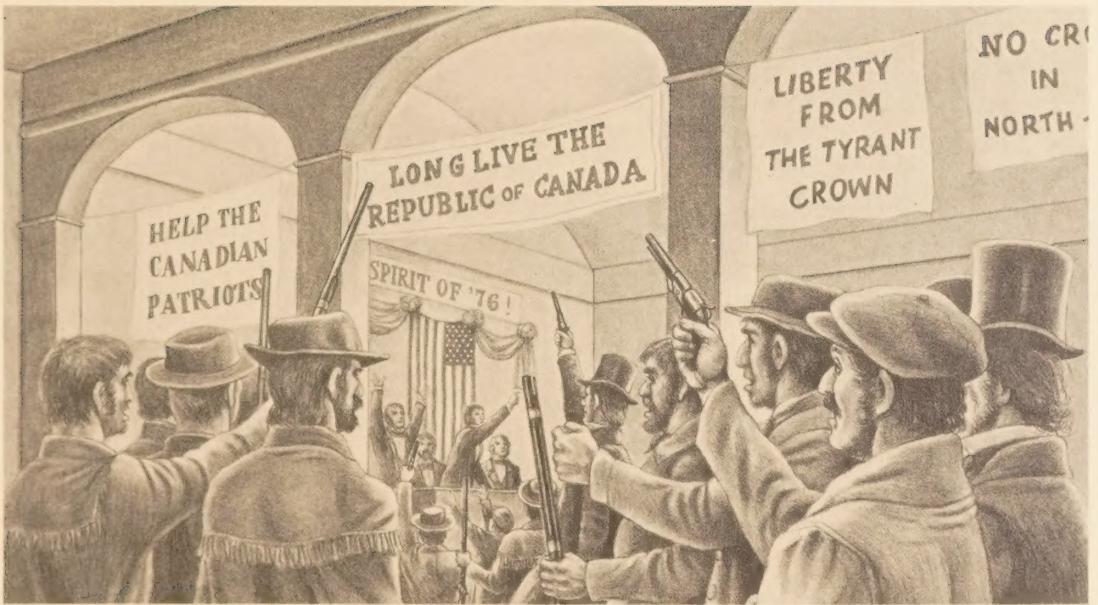


A unique work, **Struggle for a Border** gives clear and vivid form to the immense and complex forces – economic, political, military, diplomatic, social, geographic – that created and confirmed the U.S.-Canada border. Much unfamiliar history is shown to be relevant, and familiar history is put into new contexts, sometimes challenging standard assumptions. The purely political approach is made secondary to a more comprehensive geo-political and economic one that corresponds more closely to the actual workings of history.

The nine films, in their totality, weave together not two, but several distinct histories – French-Canadian, English-Canadian, American North, American South, and British – into a series of immense historical fugues whose various themes set off and complement one another.

The films reveal that Canada survived, not because the United States could not take the country, nor because it did not want Canada, nor even because the border conformed to a natural division of the continent, but because there was a Canadian will to independence. These films are the biography of that will.





Each of the nine one-hour films is entirely self-contained, though part of a larger continuity. There are no interviews, but an on-screen narrator, J. Frank Willis, provides commentary and gives point and perspective to the progression of events. The films are so constructed that, if need be, they may be shown in half-hour, or shorter, segments.

Contemporary pictures, political cartoons, photographs, and many "now-it-can-be-told" anecdotes make **Struggle for a Border** a fresh, provocative, often amusing, always absorbing film series to sharpen the interest and the curiosity of students of history of all ages.

Volume 3 of the Report of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism has drawn attention to the often one-sided and over-simplified presentation of Canadian history in school textbooks. Here, in **Struggle for a Border**, is a view of Canadian history that is neither – not merely an English view, not merely a French view, but a serious attempt to balance them – which may help teachers of Canadian history in their search for objectivity.



Struggle for a Border series Request to Preview

I would like to preview, with a view to purchasing the following films:

1. New England and New France
2. Canada and the American Revolution
3. The War of 1812
4. Dangerous Decades
5. The New Equation: Annexation and Reciprocity
6. The Friendly Fifties and the Sinister Sixties
7. The Triumphant Union and the Canadian Confederation
8. The Border Confirmed: The Treaty of Washington
9. A Second Transcontinental Nation

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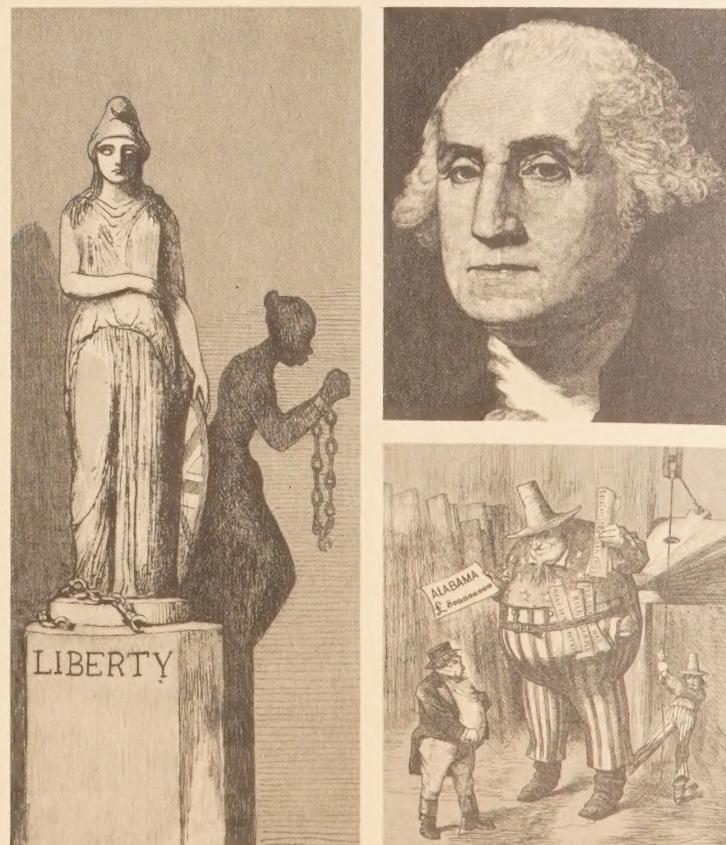
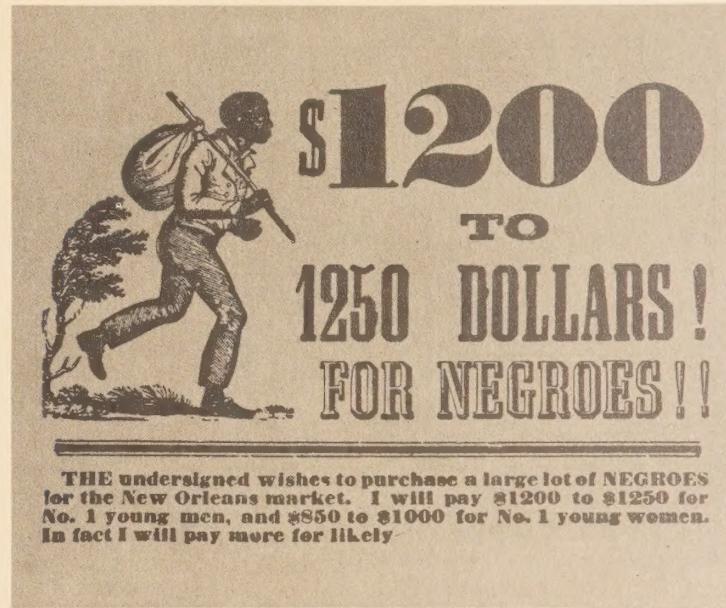
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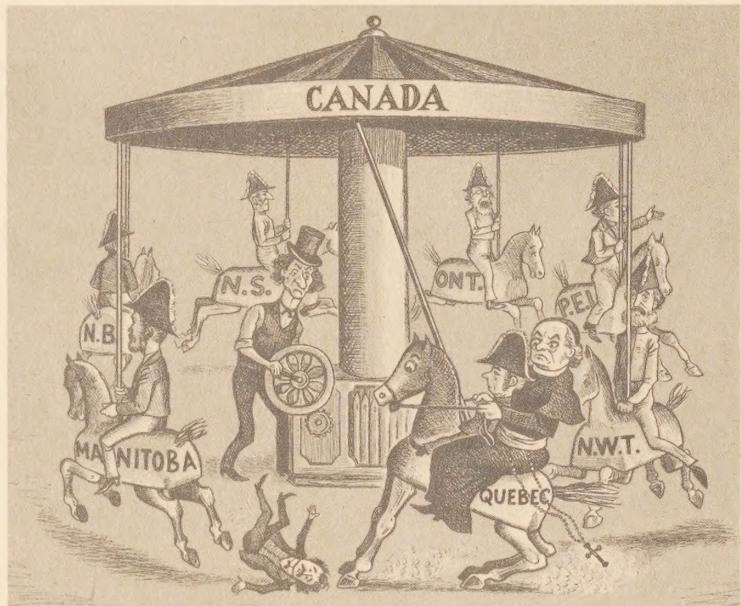
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